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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/926,356	12/20/2001	Johannes Krul	011369	9258
23850	7590	07/03/2003		
ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP 1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER ST CYR, DANIEL	
			ART UNIT 2876	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/926,356	KRUL, JOHANNES	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel St.Cyr	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 19-32 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 33, 35 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment filed 4/16/03.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 33 and 35 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 33 appears to be depended on claim 19, if so the claim should be as follows:

--The authenticity evaluation method according to claim 19, wherein said security facility consisting essentially of a non-conducting plastic support, on which at least two conducting areas spaced apart are provided, wherein the at least two conducting areas spaced apart are directly electrically interconnected by means of respective diode connection with a predefined conducting direction.--

And claim 35 appears to be depended on claim 32, if so the claim should be as follows:

--The authenticity evaluation system for evaluation of the authenticity of substrates having a security according to claim 32, wherein said security facility consisting essentially of a non-conducting plastic support, on which at least two conducting areas spaced apart are provided, wherein the at least two conducting areas spaced apart are directly electrically interconnected by means of respective diode connection with a predefined conducting direction.-

These claims are assumed to be dependent on their respective independent claims 19 and 32.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Niepolomski et al,

US Patent No. 4,970,260.

Niepolomski et al disclose a method and apparatus for validating documents comprising: a value document 2 which bears encoded monetary value, the document includes separate portions of conducting area C1-Cn which are connected by means of diodes, wherein the diodes have predetermine conducting direction (see figures 7 and 8 and col. 3, line 6+).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 19-32 are allowed.

6. Claims 33 and 35 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office action.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: although the prior art of record teaches documents having conducting area separated by diodes wherein the diodes have a predetermine conducting direction, the prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggests that the document is validating by the comparing the detected conducting direction with a reference conducting direction. These limitations in conjunction with other limitations in the claims were not shown by the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 4/16/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. (see examiner remarks).

REMARKS:

In response to the applicant argument that the diodes are destroyed upon using the card.

The examiner respectfully disagrees. The security is permanent until the card is used.

Furthermore all the diodes are not destroyed upon the first used of the card. Once a code word is valid one or more values marking are erased (by destroying the appropriate diodes). The applicant argument is not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the permanent facility can be checked multiple times) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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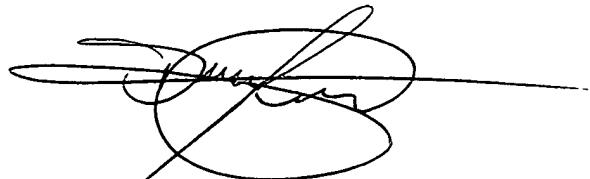
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel St.Cyr whose telephone number is 703-305-2656. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7721 for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Daniel St.Cyr
Examiner
Art Unit 2876

DS
June 26, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel St.Cyr", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.